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February 23, 2004

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TO: Examiner Jori R. Shiffman  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Group Art Unit 3679  
Alexandria, VA

FAX NUMBER: 1 703 872-9306

FROM: Guy D. Yale

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CONFIRMATION COPY TO FOLLOW ☐ YES ☒ NO  
Original Documentation Sent 2/20/04

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James E. Piotrowski  
Thomas J. Menard  
Benjamin Y. Agress  
Thomas A. Hatfield  
Diane F. Covello

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/923,288  
Title: Deck Screws Suitable For Use  
With Composite Lumber  
Inventor(s): Hubert T. McGovern et al  
Our (Your) Ref: OMG/129/US

Per our recent phone conversation, please see the following documents:

Transmittal Letter dated 02/20/04 1 page

Amendment After Allowance Of Claims 17 pages

37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) Statement 1 page

Information Disclosure Statement 1 page  
with attachments 4 pages

PART ONE  
(Sent in 2 parts  
only to pg. 13)

OF COUNSEL  
James E. Alix

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AYR fax 10-03

Atty. Docket: OMG/129/US

In re patent application of first named inventor: Hubert T. McGovern et al

Application No.: 09/923,288 Examiner: Jori Schiffman

Filing Date: August 6, 2001 Group Art Unit: 3679

For: DECK SCREWS SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COMPOSITE LUMBER

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir, enclosed herewith is (are):

- Petition For Amendment After Allowance of Claims (37 C.F.R. §1.312)
- Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 form and 4 cited references
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) Statement
- return postcard

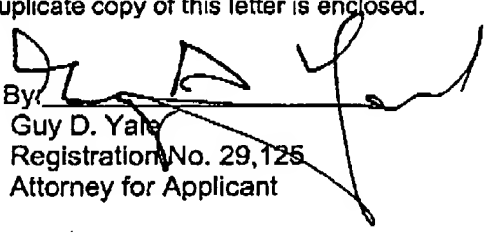
It is hereby petitioned that any required extension of time be granted for filing the enclosed papers. An extension of 0 month(s) having a fee of \$0 appears required.

	No. of claims remaining after amendment	Highest no. of claims previously paid for	no. extra	claim fee	subtotal
Total				\$	\$0.00
Independent				\$	\$0.00
Total claim fees					\$ 0.00

☒ If checked, a check in the amount of \$130.00 is attached. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 16-2563 of Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP.

The Commissioner is hereby requested and authorized to charge Deposit Account 16-2563 of Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP for any required extension fee and for any other fee, not enclosed herewith, due for any reason during the pendency of this application or in connection with the accompanying document, including (a) any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims and (b) any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Date: 2-20-2004  
Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP  
750 Main Street- Suite 1400  
Hartford, CT 06103-2721  
(860) 527-9211

By:   
Guy D. Yale  
Registration No. 29,125  
Attorney for Applicant

The above signatory certifies that this correspondence is being deposited on the date given above with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450".

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Attorney Docket No. OMG/129/US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Hubert T. McGovern, et al

Serial No.: 09/923,288

Examiner: Jori Schiffman

Filing Date: August 6, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3679

For: DECK SCREWS SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COMPOSITE LUMBER

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS**  
**(37 C.F.R. § 1.312 )**

This is an Amendment After Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.312:

**Proposed amendments and the present status of the claims, begins on page 2**  
of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.**